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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Schock, et al.	:	Examiner: Patel, Vinod D
Serial Number: 09/925,143)	
Filed: 08/09/01	:	Group Art Unit: 3742
For: Intra-Aortic Balloon Catheter)	Conf. No. 3516
Having A Fiberoptic Sensor	:	Dated: March 4, 2004
)	Docket No. Data 53 CIP CONT

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

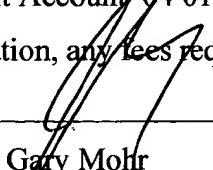
In response to the Office Action of September 4, 2003, regarding the above entitled invention, for which an extension of time has been requested until March 4, 2004, please amend the Application as follows:

Amendments to the claims start on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Argument begin on page 3 of this paper.


Charge to deposit Account 04 0170 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25, at any time during the pendency of this application, any fees required or credit any overpayment to this Deposit Account.

Dated: March 4, 2004



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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on October 3, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Express Mail Label No. EV 408429202 US.



J. Gary Mohr

Dated: March 4, 2004